LINCOLN COLLECTION

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Notes.

CENTENARY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTH.—

The Centenary of Abraham Lincoln's birth was observed by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania at a Special Meeting, February 8, at which Major William H. Lambert, a member of the Council, read a paper entitled "The Gettysburg Address, When Written, How Received, its True Form"; and also by an Exhibition of Lincoln Autographs and Relics, that continued through the week. In addition to the Society's own treasures, the following articles from Major Lambert's Lincoln Collection were shown:

Lock of Lincoln's Hair, cut April 15, 1865.

Cuff Button worn by Lincoln April 14, 1865.

Inkstand owned and used by Lincoln in his Springfield Law Office, with certificate by his partner Herndon, that from this stand the "House divided against itself" speech was written.

Cane owned and used by Lincoln, and presented by him to Rev. Dr. Gurley, pastor of the Church attended by the President and his family in Washington.

Cane presented to Lincoln in 1860, and after his death presented by his widow to Frank B. Carpenter, the artist.

Books Owned by Lincoln and Containing his Autograph.

A Dictionary for Primary Schools—Webster—1833.
Paley's Works.
Gibbon's Rome.
Hallam's Middle Ages.
Angell on Limitations.
The Illinois Conveyancer.

Books Presented to Lincoln.

The Republican Party, speech by Charles Sumner, with his autograph presentation.

Hitchcock's Religious Truth, with autograph presentation by Herndon.

Books Used by Lincoln, Each with Certificate of that Fact.

Colton's Life and Specches of Henry Clay.
Speech of Stephen A. Douglas.

Books Presented by Lincoln with his Penciled Autograph Inscription in Each.

Lincoln and Douglas Debates, 1860, with two A. L. S. of Lincoln and one of Douglas, relating to contest, inserted.

Lanman's Dictionary of Congress, 1859, with A. L. S. of Lincoln to Lanman inserted.

Penn Mag of History Oct 1909

Autographs of Lincoln.

"Abraham Lincoln—His Book."—Small blank book in which Lincoln pasted clippings from newspaper reports of various speeches and wrote notes and a letter to Hon. J. N. Brown, for whom the book was prepared.

Autograph page from "Sum Book" signed by Lincoln and dated 1824.

Soldier's Discharge in "Black Hawk War," blanks filled by Lincoln, who signed as Captain, September 26, 1832.

Autograph Document—Notes of Survey, 1836.

Autograph Praecipe in his first law suit, October 8, 1836.

A. L. S. to Hon. John T. Stuart, January 20, 1840.

A. L. S. to William H. Herndon, June 22, 1848.

A. L. S. to John D. Johnson (step-brother), November 25, 1851.

A. L. S. to Hon. John M. Palmer, September 7, 1854.

A. L. S. to John E. Rosette, February 20, 1857.

A. L. S. to Hon. Lyman Trumbull, April 29, 1860.

Note signed to the Secretary of the Interior, March 15, 1861.

A. N. S. to Lieut. Genl. Scott, August 7, 1861.

A. N. S. to General McClellan, September 30, 1861.

A. N. S. to Secretary of War, July 28, 1862.

A. L. S. to Governor Curtin, July 25, 1864.

A. L. S. to Dr. W. O. Snider, July 25, 1864.

A. L. S. to General Grant, City Point, April 6, 1865.

Nine visiting cards with Autograph notes signed on each, various dates.

A. L. S. of Col. J. E. Peyton to the Adjt. Genl. U. S. A. with favorable endorsements by several citizens of Philadelphia, and Mayor Henry, Governor Curtin, and President Lincoln, but disapproved by the Secretary of War.

Proposed measures for gradual and compensated abolition of slavery in Delaware; four pages in President Lincoln's autograph.

Plan of Campaign for fall of 1861, two pages in autograph of President Lincoln.

Autograph manuscript of his Address at the opening of the Sanitary Fair, Baltimore, April 18, 1864.

Autograph Manuscript—Thoughts upon Slavery.

Legal documents in Autograph of Lincoln, the several firm names signed by him.

Stuart & Lincoln.
Logan & Lincoln.
Lincoln & Herndon.

Legal Documents in Autograph of Lincoln signed for himself and associated counsel.

Lincoln & Lamon.
Whitney, Davis, Swett & Lincoln.

Autograph judicial opinion written by Lincoln at request of the Clerk of the Court.

Lincoln and Herndon Fee Book, 1847.

Copper Medal, copy of Gold Medal given Mrs. Lincoln by French citizens.

Lincoln Centennial Medals by Roiné, Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

Lincoln Medals by Brenner, Silver and Bronze.

Original Ambrotype, August 13, 1860.
Original Ambrotype.
Original Daguerreotype.
Twelve Contemporary Card Photographs.
Program of Arrangements for reception of President-Elect, Philadelphia, February 21, 1861.
Obsequies of President in Philadelphia, April 21, 1865.
Ticket of Admission to Independence Hall, April 21, 1865.
Ford's Theatre Play-Bill, April 14, 1865, First Issue.
Ford's Theatre Play-Bill, April 14, 1865, Second Issue.
Manuscript notes descriptive of the last hours of President Lincoln and of the autopsy, written April 15, 1865, by Dr. C. S. Taft, one of the attending Surgeons.
Autograph Copy by Walt Whitman of "O Captain! My Captain!"

Among the exhibits of the Historical Society were the following original autograph letters:

EXECUTIVE MANSION
MAJOR GENERAL GRANT. WASHINGTON, July 13, 1863.

My dear General.

I do not remember that you and I ever met personally. I write this now as a grateful acknowledgment for the almost inestimable service you have done the country.—I wish to say a word further—When you first reached the vicinity of Vicksburg, I thought you should do, what you finaly did—March the troops across the neck, run the batteries with the transports, and then go below; and I never had any faith, except a general hope that you knew better than I, that the Yazoo Pass expedition, and the like, could succeed. When you got below, and took Port Gibson, Grand Gulf, and vicinity, I thought you should go down the river and join Gen. Banks, and when you turned Northward East of the Big Black, I feared it was a mistake. I now wish to make the personal acknowledgment that you were right, and I was wrong.

Yours very truly
A. LINCOLN.

EXECUTIVE MANSION
ELIZA P. GURNEY. WASHINGTON September 4, 1864.

My esteemed friend,

I have not forgotten—probably never shall forget—the very impressive occasion when yourself and friends visited me on a Sabbath forenoon two years ago. Nor has your kind letter, written nearly a year later ever been forgotten. In all it has ever been your purpose to strengthen my reliance on God. I am much indebted to the good christian people of the country for their constant prayers and consolations; and to no one of them, more than to yourself. The purposes of the Almighty are perfect, and must prevail, though we erring mortals may fail to accurately perceive them in advance. We hoped for a happy termination of this terrible war long before this; but God knows best, and has ruled otherwise. We shall yet acknowledge His wisdom and our own error therein. Meanwhile we must work earnestly in the best light he gives us, trusting that so working still conduces to the great ends He ordains.

Surely He intends some great good to follow this mighty convulsion, which no mortal could make, and no mortal could stay.

Your people—the Friends—have had, and are having a very great trial.

On principle, and faith, opposed to both war and oppression, they can only practically oppose oppression by war. In this hard dilemma, some have chosen one horn and some the other. For those appealing to me on conscientious grounds, I have done, and shall do, the best I could and can, in my own conscience, under my oath to the law. That you believe this I doubt not, and believing it, I shall still receive, for our country and myself, your earnest prayers to our Father in Heaven.

Your sincere friend,
A. LINCOLN.

ACT RELATING TO THE PENN TITLE IN DELAWARE.—The following Act, somewhat in line with the policy of the Divesting Act of the Assembly of Pennsylvania, is found in "The Laws of the State of Delaware," printed by Adams, Newcastle, Del., 1797, vol. ii, p. 1174:

Chap. LVII. c. Passed February 7, 1794.

A Supplement to an act, intitled: An act for opening and establishing a Land Office within this state, and for the sale of all vacant and unlocated lands therein.

WHEREAS the rights to the soil and lands within the known and established limits of this state, was heretofore claimed by the crown of Great Britain: And whereas by the definitive treaty between his Britannic Majesty and the United States of America, his said Majesty relinquished all rights, proprietary and territorial within the limits of the said United States, to the citizens of the same, for their sole use and benefit; by virtue whereof the soil and lands within the limits of this state became the right and property of the citizens thereof, and who at the time of passing the act to which this is a supplement, had, and now have, full power and authority, by their Representatives, to dispose of the same for their sole benefit, emolument and advantage. And whereas the claims of the late and former proprietaries of this state, to the soil and lands contained within the same, are not founded either in law or equity; and it is just, right, and necessary, that the citizens thereof should be secured in the enjoyment of their estates, rights and properties.

SECTION 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Delaware in General Assembly met, That all patents, warrants, and grants, for lands within this state, made or granted by James heretofore Duke of York, the proprietaries of Maryland, or the pretended proprietaries of this state, or their or any of their Agents, Officers or Commissioners, duly authorised to grant lands within the same, at any time before the first day of January, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty, and all surveys made in pursuance of any such patents, warrants, or grants, shall be, and at all times hereafter shall be deemed and taken to be good and valid both in law and equity, fully, clearly, and absolutety exonerated, discharged and exempted of and from all manner of rents, fines, and services whatsoever; and the said patents, warrants, and grants so fully, clearly and absolutely exonerated, discharged and exempted, are hereby ratified,